



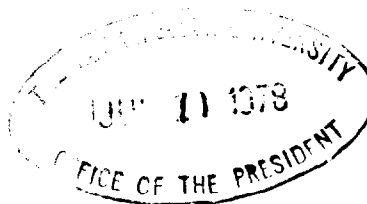
THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

8 July 1978

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The Honorable James F. Leonard
Deputy Representative
U.S. Mission to the UN
799 UN Plaza
New York City 10017



Dear Ambassador Leonard:

Last week Josh Lederberg and I were discussing his likely need to use the Mission's facilities occasionally in the future, and I gather that he reached you to discuss this matter. I suppose that it would be most efficient for Josh to act in his personal capacity in such contacts with the Mission; but if there were any administrative arrangements that the University should make to facilitate the situation, we are of course prepared to cooperate fully.

I am also prompted to write because I recently read in the UNA's The Interdependent some excerpts from your remarks at Helsinki earlier this year. I thoroughly agree with your views that arms control can be successful--and I was particularly glad that you emphasized that there is no valid doctrine showing the inevitability about the development of new weapons. Indeed, many observers who favor substantial arms control have long believed that with strong civilian leadership in the State and Defense Departments as well as in the White House, a vigorous defense R&D effort ought to serve as an important "hedge" in achieving arms limitations. Such R&D reassures critics of SALT and encourages R&D-intensity among significant sectors of our entire national technological base. Some years ago, shortly after I left ODDR&E in the Pentagon, I wrote the enclosed essay about the interactions between R&D and SALT. I am sad that SALT has not proceeded as quickly as I had expected and hoped, but I believe that many of the points I made are still valid.

I hope very much that our paths may cross again soon in connection with preparations for the UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development. I realize that this is probably not one of your main concerns. But it is a major opportunity for the U.S. to rethink our relations linking science and technology with diplomacy, and then to meet the legitimate aspirations of the third world.

Sincerely,

Rodney W. Nichols

Rodney W. Nichols
Vice President

Enclosure

cc: Joshua Lederberg